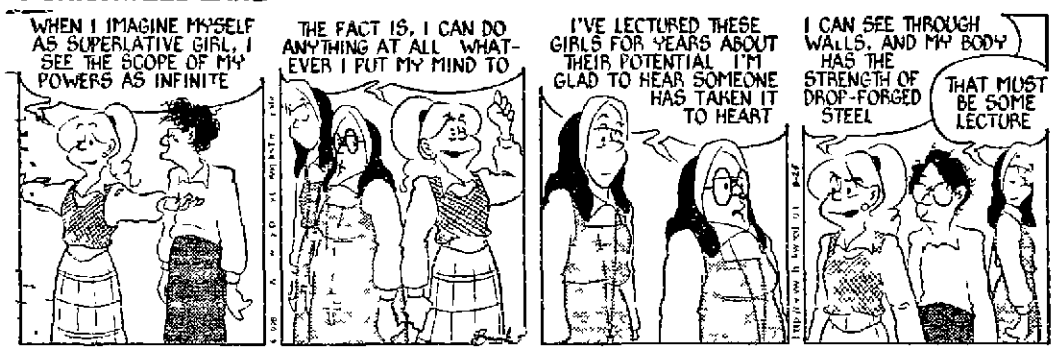
BLONDIE

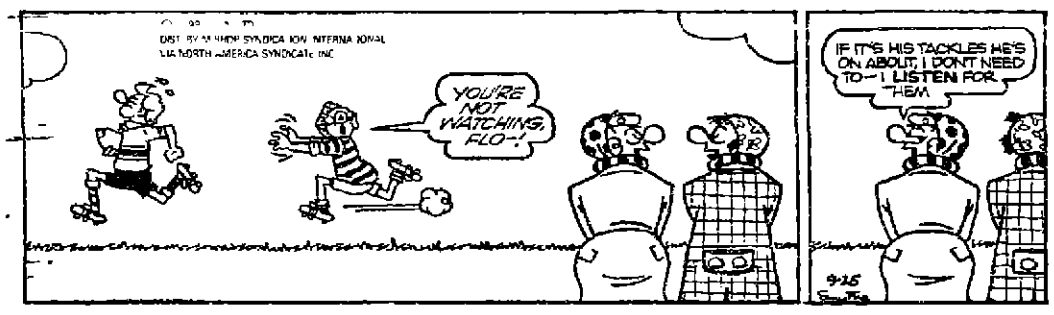
SALLY FORTH

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

9 CHICKWEED LANE



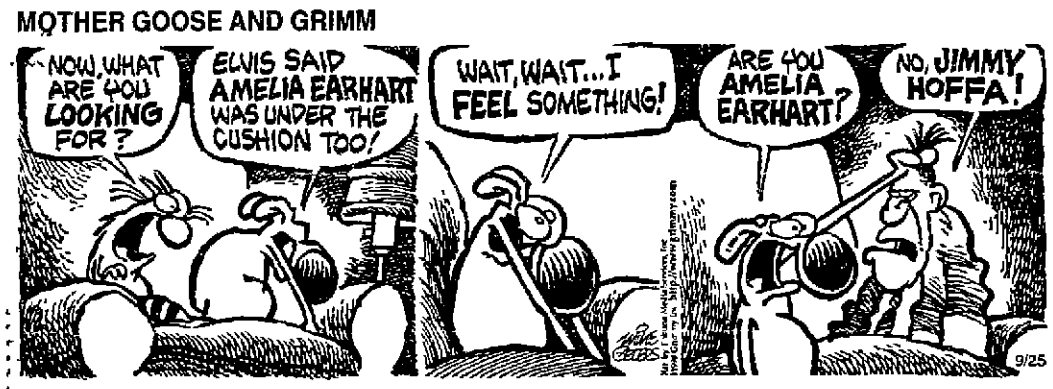
ANDY CAPP



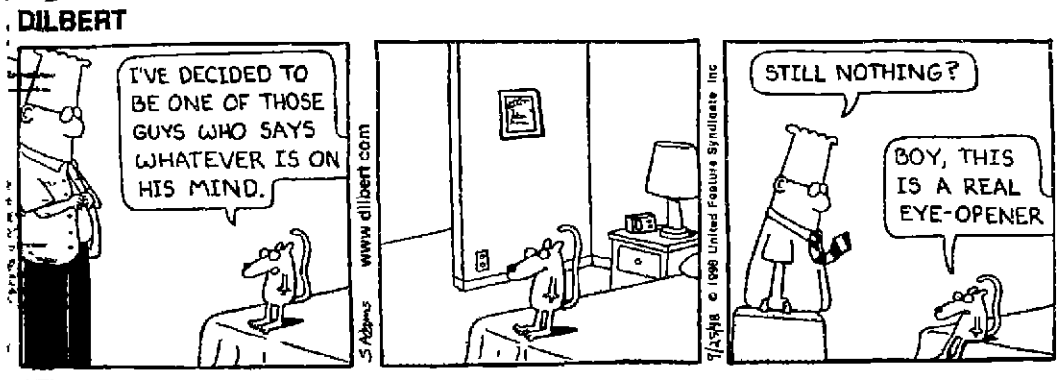
ROSE IS ROSE

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM

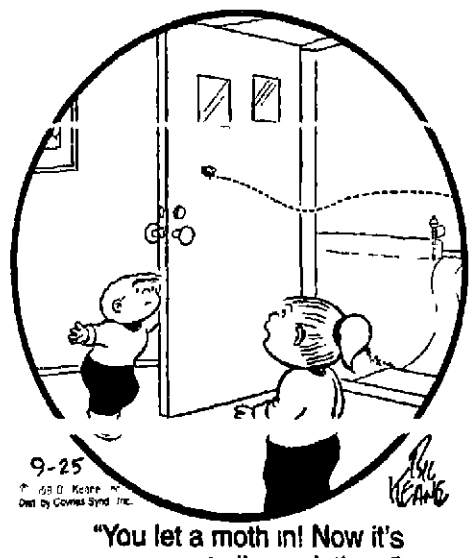


DILBERT

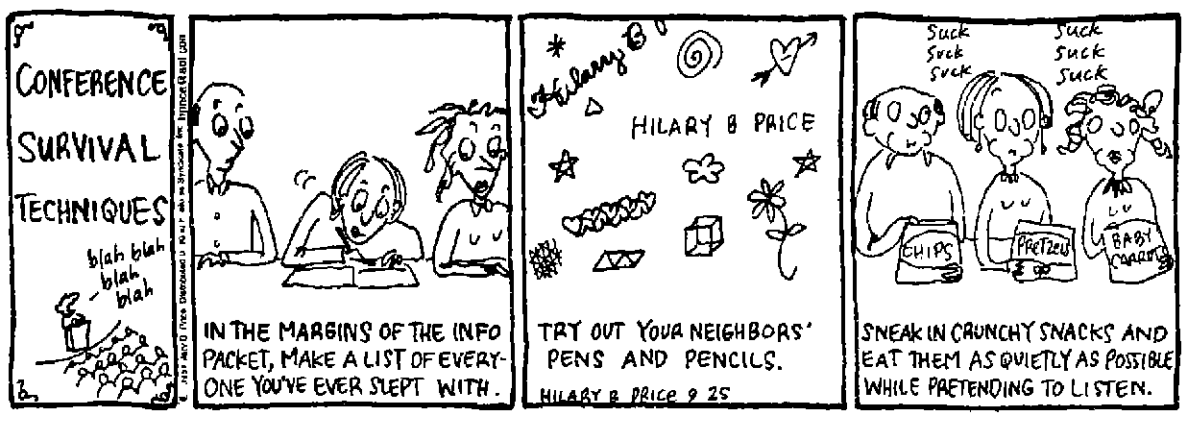


DENNIS THE MENACE

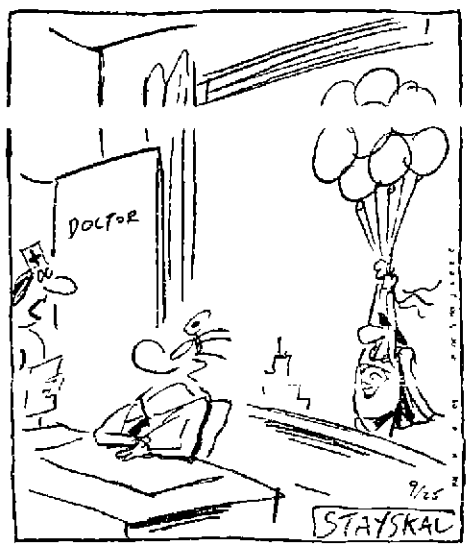
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH

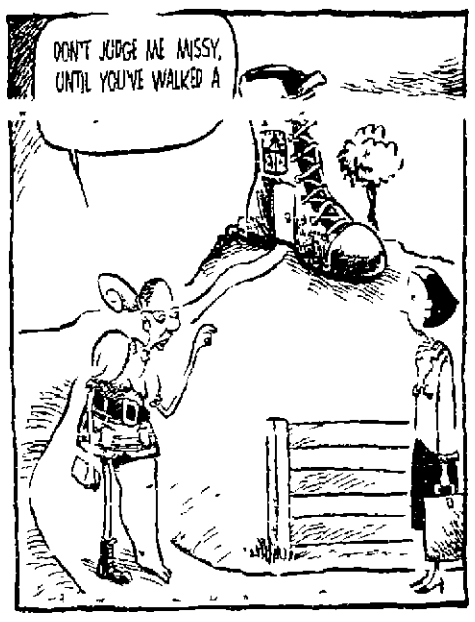


"Superman's on the way up. He says he's been feeling a bit weak lately."

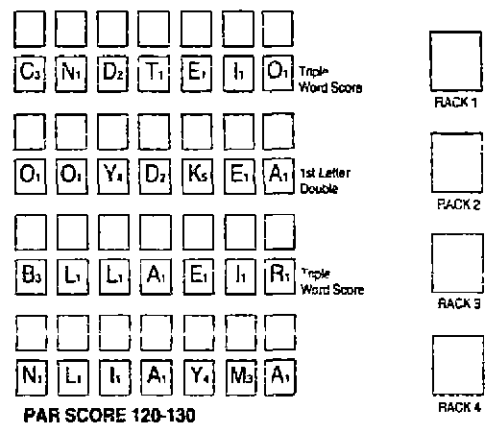
Today's Birthdays

Baseball Hall-of-Famer **Phil Rizzuto** is 81. Former ABC newscaster and correspondent **Barbara Walters** is 67. Country singer **Ian Tyson** is 65. Rhythm-and-blues singer **Jesse Russell** is 59. Actor **Robert Walden** is 55. Actor-producer **Michael Douglas** is 54. Model **Cheryl Tiegs** is 51. Actress **Mimi Kennedy** is 49. Actor **Christopher Reeve** is 46. Actor **Mark Hamill** is 46. Actress **Heather Locklear** is 37. Basketball player **Scottie Pippen** is 33. Actor **Will Smith** is 30.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE



PAR SCORE 120-130

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Player's Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW (Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW**

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Saturday, Sept. 26, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Hooking up with people from foreign lands is likely to lead to exciting adventures.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Although you may be tempted to take a gamble with your financial affairs, the risk is not likely to pay off.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Don't take the gossip of busybodies so seriously deep down, you know it's just a case of envy.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Feel free to hide your head in the sand. Remember that you are not responsible for the happiness of all around you.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Love, sex, money and power are suddenly right within your reach. Don't let your ego get in the way of making wise choices.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Dare yourself to be irresponsible for a change. It's high time you had a little fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Prepare yourself to go forth and do good things rather than just talking incessantly about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Although you are tempted to leap before you look, a little caution is advised.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You delight someone with your sense of humor, which leads to an attractive social invitation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Rather than complaining about the rut you feel like you're in, get out and do something about it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) A series of changes sets a project in motion at long last. Accept the compliments you receive on your progress.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Although someone may have beaten you to the cookie jar, you had your eye on another opportunity is right around the corner.

WORD SLEUTH

Egg–

R D S O K G C X U Q M I E A W
S P A B C L I E A X T Q N J G
C Z W E T Q N J G D A X U R O
L L L A H S I D J G D A X V S
P L D T H N K R I F C A X V S
Q O O E L I E H F C A X V T R
P O L R P M T N L J H F D B Y
T L X V I A I N T C R P O M K
I N G T E E H D A B Z X W U T
R O U Q O R W S N L L J I G F
D G C H A C Y X W V P U C T S

Thursday's unlisted clue: HOLY COW

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Friday's unlisted clue hint: EXTERIOR COVERING

Beater	Dish	Plant	Timer
Cell	Head	Roll	Tooth
Cream	Hunt	Sac	White
Cup	Nog	Shaped	

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

At no-trump contracts, the holdup play is a common and effective weapon. Declarer refuses to win a trick to isolate an enemy suit or to break enemy communication. Not as common is the holdup play at suit contracts. Nevertheless, it has its uses and can be just as effective to neutralize the defense. West leads the club nine, dummy covers with the 10, and East retaliates with his jack. Should South win the trick, or should he duck? If he wins, he cashes his ace and king of trumps and leads a heart from dummy; the game goes down quickly. West wins and leads his club eight to trap dummy's queen, giving the defenders two clubs and two red aces. If South leads diamonds after drawing trumps, it won't help. East wins his ace and shifts to a heart to West's ace. Now the club continuation nets the same one down. How to neutralize the defense? South must make a holdup play at trick one. After he refuses to win his club ace, the defenders are helpless. If East continues clubs, dummy's queen will win a finesse. And if East shifts to either red suit, South will have time to discard a club loser from either his hand or dummy. Effective holdup plays are not limited to no-trump contracts. Often they might be equally rewarding at suit play.

	NORTH	09 25 A
	♠ K J 9 4	
	♥ Q J 10 9	
	♦ K Q	
	♣ Q 10 3	
WEST		EAST
♠ 7 2		♠ 5 3
♥ A 6 5 4		♥ 8 7 3 2
♦ 8 5 3		♦ A 10 7 4
♣ 9 8 7 6		♣ K J 2
	SOUTH	
	♠ A Q 10 8 6	
	♥ K	
	♦ J 9 6 2	
	♣ A 5 4	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Club nine

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

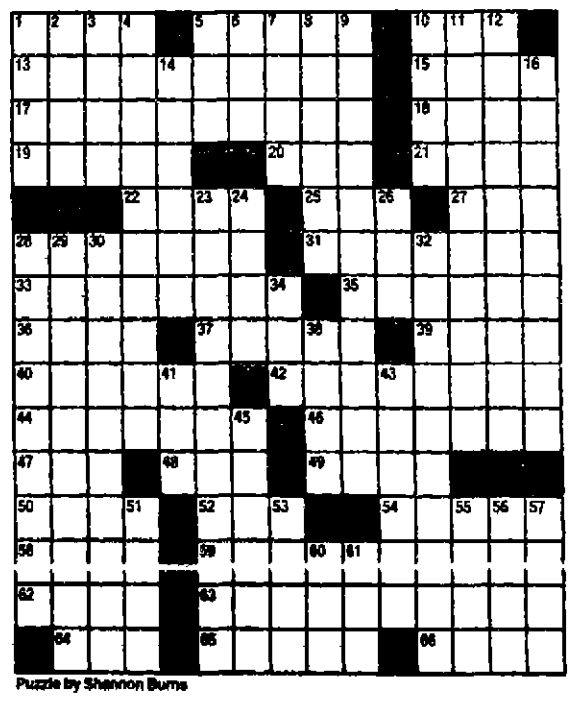
No. 0814

ACROSS

1 Thrifty competitor
5 Kind of point
10 Subjoin
13 Idealistic sort
15 Chief Big Bear, e.g.
17 Habitual
18 Snakes lack them
19 Mend a dress, maybe
20 1990 Literature Nobelist Octavio ——
21 Meet transaction
22 " could —— horse!"
25 Swell place?
27 "Mister!"
28 Pane producer
31 James, for one
33 Rose up
35 Some tourneys
36 Lots
37 Supersized
39 Father of Fear and Panic
40 King of pop
42 It may heat up a dish
44 Cure-alls
45 Counterstrokes Var.
47 Smoke
48 S.F. zone
49 Go off the deep end
50 Banned weapons
52 Wharton grad's aspiration, maybe
54 Jonson dedicatee
58 Scotch ——
59 Ultimate villain
62 Hitch
63 Justification
64 Day——
65 Bacon product
66 Not loco

DOWN

1 When Purim is observed
2 Una —— (unanimously)
3 Span fraction
4 Concertina
5 Meet
6 Tic-tac-toe dud
7 Free ticket
8 Resting
9 Plant group
10 Hand helpers
11 What public oddities often do
12 Result of a bad jump
14 FedEx alternative
16 Stock-price listings
23 Withdrawal whereabouts
24 Department
26 4-Down necessity
29 Meal-ending toasts
29 Making O.K., in a way
30 Native
32 Daily productions
38 Long-jawed fishes
41 Leo Durocher monicker, with "The"
43 Military helicopter
45 Tachygraphists
51 Utah's flower
53 Native Oklahomans
55 Daughter of Homer and
56 "Help —— the way!"
57 —— extra cost
60 Civil rights leader Wells
61 "All for one and



Puzzle by Shannon Burns

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

		F	A	D		S	O	F	A		C	R	A	M
	S	O	R	E		E	A	R	L		H	E	M	I
C	O	R	A	L		T	R	E	L	L	I	S	E	S
Z	I	M	B	A	L	I	S	T		I	N	E	R	T
A	R	I		W	I	N			D	E	A	R	I	E
R	E	N	T	A	L		P	L	A	N		V	C	R
S	E	G	A	R		A	L	A	R		R	E	A	S
M	I	E	N		F	A	T	E		E	V	A	N	S
I	R	A		M	A	Y	O		L	A	P	T	O	P
N	O	S	T	E	R			I	S	R		S	L	O
I	N	T	R	A		I	N	C	U	B	A	T	O	R
C	A	M	E	L	B	A	C	K			E	R	A	S	E
A	G	A	S		O	T	O	E		E	L	K	S	
M	E	N	S		N	E	S	S		R	O	E		

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute).

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